

Washington, DC—U.S. Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) who shares 785 miles of border with Mexico in his district released the following statement about the federal government response to swine flu.

Governor Perry has asked that 850,000 more courses of antiviral medication be placed in Texas as a precaution. The number is 25 percent of the Center for Disease Control's (CDC's) Texas allotment from the strategic national stockpile. Texas already has 840,000 courses of antiviral medication on hand following a purchase authorized by the State Legislature and Perry in 2007.

"My office has been closely monitoring the swine flu outbreak occurring in Mexico, Texas, and throughout the United States and the world. My staff have spoken with federal, state and local health and emergency preparedness authorities and I have made myself available to help in whatever way I or my office may be needed to ensure we can do everything that experts advise us to do."

"The CDC recommends that if you get sick you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them."

"It is my hope at this time that our borders with Mexico and Canada remain open so that trade may continue to flourish between our friendly nations unless experts, rather than politicians, see a need to close the borders."

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